

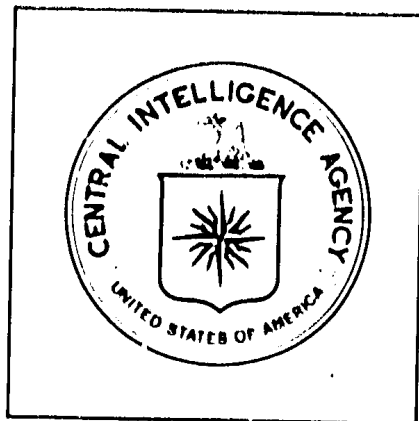
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Top Secret

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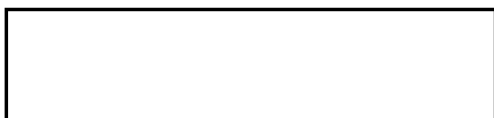


STAFF NOTES:

Soviet Union Eastern Europe

State Department review completed

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SOVIET UNION - EASTERN EUROPE

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Soviet-Libyan Arms Deal?

The USSR and Libya have been quick to publicly deny Egyptian charges that Soviet bases will be established in Libya and have said Cairo's allegations of an arms agreement worth more than \$4 billion were "exaggerated." While Cairo's charges are indeed greatly overstated, Moscow and Tripoli apparently did enter into a new arms agreement during Premier Kosygin's recent visit, and the Libyans may have agreed to permit the Soviets access to some military facilities.

A Soviet official said the details of Moscow's arms sale were to be worked out by a Soviet military aid delegation which remained in Libya after Kosygin left.

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Last year Moscow and Tripoli concluded an arms agreement valued at an estimated \$250 million. Under that accord, the Soviets have gradually been delivering equipment including armored vehicles, air defense equipment, and MIG-23 jet fighters.

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Regarding the base issue, the Soviets have publicly blasted the Egyptian "fabrication," but have privately hinted that they did obtain some military privileges from Libya. The Soviet military attache in Cairo told

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that Moscow obtained permission to use "some facilities." He gave no specifics, and we cannot rule out the possibility that he was spreading this word to increase Egyptian apprehensions.

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[REDACTED]

The Soviets at present do not make military use of Libya; Soviet naval combatants have not visited there since 1969--and the Libyans have kept a close eye on Soviet technicians and advisers. It is possible, however, Qadhafi, intent on securing Russian arms and bolstering his position against Sadat, has made some concessions to Moscow, such as permitting naval visits or granting Moscow use of Libya for technical intelligence collection. In view of Libya's long-standing opposition to any foreign bases and intense suspicion of Moscow, it seem highly unlikely, however, that Qadhafi would permit the Soviets to make extensive military use of Libya.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Husak Selected as President of Czechoslovakia

The Czechoslovak Party Central Committee yesterday named party chief Gustav Husak to succeed President Ludvik Svoboda, who has been ailing for more than a year.

Husak will continue to serve as party boss. Some reports claim that he will hold the country's two top offices only until the party congress next spring.

Husak's "election" will be formalized today. The parliament will first enact a constitutional amendment, proposed by the Central Committee, to provide for removal of an incapacitated head of state before his term in office expires. With Svoboda thus out of the way, the legislature's election of Husak will be a pro forma matter.

Svoboda's final passing from the top leadership must sooner or later include his removal from the 11-member party presidium--a question the Central Committee resolution did not address. Svoboda's party status could be settled in a number of ways, but in any case Husak would probably emerge with at least slightly weakened influence.

--Svoboda remains on the presidium. He has not been able to function for more than a year in the largely ceremonial office of the presidency, and it stands to reason that his ability to support Husak in the all-important presidium would continue to be quite limited.

--Svoboda leaves the presidium and no replacement is named. This would presumably work to the advantage of

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[REDACTED]

the hard liners, who would be able
to place Husak under increased pres-
sure--at least until the party con-
gress next spring.

--Svoboda loses his presidium post and
a replacement is named. Almost any
successor is likely to have a tougher
political stance than Svoboda.

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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Leningrad Art Show a Non-Event

Police in Leningrad prevented some eight intransigent nonconformists from holding a rump outdoor art exhibit last weekend. This sad epilogue to months of planning by unconventional artists in Moscow and Leningrad graphically shows the efficacy of the regime's divisive tactics.

The attempt failed before it started. One Leningrad artist later told Western newsmen that he had been detained by police and that others who wanted to show their works were prevented from leaving their homes.

The artists, five or six from Leningrad and the others from Moscow, evidently were trying to go it alone. Late last week, a joint meeting in Moscow of nonconformists from both cities decided to "postpone" the long-planned exhibit. The decision was made after a week of harassment and threats by the KGB, and a promise by Leningrad city officials that an indoor show would be allowed later.

The backdown by the majority of the unconventional artists probably rankled the splinter group, which continues to take an all-or-nothing approach. One of the Leningrad intransigents telephoned the US consulate on May 23 to say the show would go on--possibly a last-ditch attempt to warn the authorities that they might run the risk of adverse Western diplomatic and press coverage should they try to quash the show. The regime, having isolated the reckless handful of artists from their colleagues, chose the easier way out by seeing that they never got to the exhibit area.

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Pravda Pushes Production Associations

A lead article in *Pravda* on May 23 indicates that Soviet authorities hope to double the number of enterprises organized into production associations this year. *Pravda* says that by the end of the year around a quarter of Soviet enterprises will be so amalgamated. According to other publications, 12 percent of all enterprises had been grouped into about 6,000 associations by the end of 1974.

The *Pravda* article follows other signs of leadership attention to the reorganization of industry [redacted] 25X1
It also demonstrates the resistance being met from local officials and administrators in the ministries who are heavily involved in enterprise affairs. Many associations are criticized for being too small--14 percent have less than 500 workers. Certain ministries are only slowly developing reorganization plans. Some plans envisage too much "juridical independence" for many small factories and leave the ministerial main administrations intact. The *Pravda* article mentions continuing difficulties in properly placing managerial personnel who have lost their posts in ministries that have been reorganized. *Pravda's* answer to these problems is to point to the "special role" that party committees in industrial ministries play in achieving a substantial improvement in economic management. [redacted]

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CHRONOLOGY

May 20

Secretary of State Kissinger and Foreign Minister Gromyko conclude a two-day meeting at Vienna. [REDACTED]

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US-Polish discussions on bilateral fisheries problems begin in Washington. [REDACTED]

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Soviet-Romanian economic commission convenes in Moscow. [REDACTED]

25X1

Soviet-UK committee on economic and technical cooperation convenes in Moscow. [REDACTED]

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Seven visiting US governors confer with officials of the USSR Supreme Soviet and of the RSFSR in Moscow. [REDACTED]

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Austrian President Kirchschrager begins a five-day, state visit to Poland. [REDACTED]

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May 21

Warsaw Pact military council concludes a three-day meeting in Warsaw. [REDACTED]

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US Undersecretary of Agriculture Campbell begins a five-day, official visit to Romania. [REDACTED]

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Foreign Minister Gromyko confers with Austrian Chancellor Kreisky in Vienna before returning to Moscow. [REDACTED]

25X1

Defense Minister Grechko begins a three-day official visit to Bulgaria. [REDACTED]

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May 21

Soviet Ambassador to East Germany Abrasimov issues a statement terming FRG Foreign Minister Genscher's appearance in West Berlin today with Secretary of State Kissinger "a serious infringement" of the Four-Power agreement. [REDACTED]

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Polish party chief Gierek and Premier Jaroszewicz begin a two-day official visit to East Germany. [REDACTED]

25X1

Romanian Foreign Trade Minister Patan confers with Boeing officials and links the purchase of 707s to Washington's granting Romania most-favored-nation treatment. [REDACTED]

25X1

French Foreign Minister Sauvagnargues begins a five-day, official visit to Yugoslavia. [REDACTED]

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May 22

AUCCTU plenum in Moscow "releases" labor chief Shelepin from his post "at his own request." [REDACTED]

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Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Grishin begins an official visit to India for initial talks on a trade agreement to cover the 1976-80 period. [REDACTED]

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An exhibition from the Metropolitan Museum of Art opens in Leningrad. [REDACTED]

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Politburo member Pelshe returns to Moscow by rail from Finland, where he attended the 17th congress of the Finnish Communist Party. [REDACTED]

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Yugoslav Foreign Minister Minic has a four-hour meeting with visiting French Foreign Minister Sauvagnargues. [REDACTED]

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May 22 North Korean party/state chief Kim Il-song begins a five-day visit to Romania. [REDACTED] 25X1

Brezhnev sends message of greetings to the Soviet-Vietnamese friendship society on its 25th anniversary. [REDACTED] 25X1

May 23 Swedish Foreign Minister Andersson concludes a five-day, official visit to Romania. [REDACTED] 25X1

Politburo member Kirilenko and Suslov lead Soviet officials at the Moscow observance of the 70th birthday of author Mikhail Sholokhov, who is awarded the Order of Lenin *in absentia* because of an unspecified illness. [REDACTED] 25X1

USSR releases its foreign trade figures for 1974; they reveal a drop of 36 per cent in trade with the US from the 1973 total. [REDACTED] 25X1

Politburo candidate-member Demichev confers with visiting US Assistant Secretary of State Richardson. [REDACTED] 25X1

May 24 Romanian Defense Minister Ionita concludes a five-day, official visit to Austria. [REDACTED] 25X1

USSR launches the manned Soyuz-18 spacecraft. [REDACTED] 25X1

May 25 Commander in Chief of the Finnish Defense Forces Sutela begins an eight-day, official visit to the USSR. [REDACTED] 25X1

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May 25

Leningrad police prevent an outdoor exhibit by a small band of Soviet abstract artists. [REDACTED]

25X1

Romania and North Korea sign a friendship treaty in Bucharest. [REDACTED]

25X1

Soviet sources report that Yury Sosnovsky, convicted of "high economic crimes" for having accepted bribes from a Swiss businessman, has been executed by a firing squad. [REDACTED]

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Romanian Deputy Premier Niculescu-Mizil begins an official visit to China. [REDACTED]

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Yugoslav President Tito observes his 83rd birthday. [REDACTED]

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May 26

Premier Kosygin confers with visiting UK foreign trade secretary Shore. [REDACTED]

25X1

Danish Queen Margrethe II arrives in Leningrad for the first state visit to the USSR by a Western monarch since the Bolshevik Revolution. [REDACTED]

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Libyan Planning Minister Muhayshi arrives in the USSR for official talks on nuclear energy cooperation. [REDACTED]

25X1

Portuguese Labor Minister Costa Martins begins an official visit to East Germany. [REDACTED]

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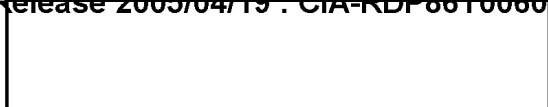
Two Soviet cosmonauts dock their Soyuz-18 spacecraft with the USSR's Salyut-4 space station. [REDACTED]

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May 26

US and Soviet delegates conclude in Washington their annual review of the 1972 agreement to curb incidents at sea.

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Greek Prime Minister Karamanlis commences a two-day, official visit to Romania and confers with President Ceausescu.

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Visiting Romanian Deputy Premier Niculescu-Mizil confers separately in Peking with Chinese Premier Chou En-lai and Deputy Premier Li Hsien-nien.

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May 27

Czechoslovak Central Committee announces that party chief Husak will also be President, replacing the ailing Ludvik Svoboda.

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Israeli Foreign Minister Allon begins a four-day, official visit to Romania.

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FUTURE EVENTS

May 28

Czechoslovak Federal Assembly to elect Husak as President.

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Soviet-Canadian commercial commission to convene in Ottawa for a two-day meeting.

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May 29

Egyptian President Sadat to begin a state visit to Yugoslavia.

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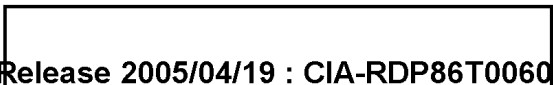
June 1

Soviet-Libyan economic commission to convene in Moscow.

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[REDACTED]

25X1

June 2

Polish party chief Gierok to begin a four-day, official visit to Sweden.

[REDACTED]

25X1

Bulgarian Foreign Minister Mladonov to begin a five-day, official visit to Japan. [REDACTED]

25X1

June 4

Greek Prime Minister Karamanlis to commence a two-day, official visit to Yugoslavia. [REDACTED]

25X1

Romanian President Ceausescu to begin a three-day, state visit to Brazil followed by a five-day visit to Mexico. [REDACTED]

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June 5

[REDACTED]

Luxembourg Grande Duke Jean to begin a six-day, state visit to the USSR.

[REDACTED]

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early June

North Korean party/state chief Kim Il-song expected to arrive in Bulgaria.

[REDACTED]

25X1

June 9

US Secretary of the Air Force McLucas to begin a three-day, official visit to Yugoslavia. [REDACTED]

25X1

June 13

Portuguese President Costa Gomes to begin a three-day, state visit to Romania. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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June 15 Hungary to hold parliamentary elections. [redacted]

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Parliamentary elections to be held in the Soviet republics. [redacted]

25X1

June 17 French President Giscard d'Estaing to commence a four-day, state visit to Poland. [redacted]

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late June Bulgarian party/state chief Zhivkov to visit Italy. [redacted]

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Premiers of the CEMA member-states reportedly to convene in Budapest for their annual meeting. [redacted]

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late June-
early July

Foreign Minister Gromyko expected to make an official visit to Canada.

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